

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, the Examiner maintained the rejection of claims 18 and 21-23 under 35 USC 102(b), over *Greenberg*, on grounds that *Greenberg* administers reserpine to rats to study the therapeutic impact of reserpine on aging. In addition, claims 18 and 21-24 were rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, on grounds that the specification, while being enabling for treating MS, does not reasonably provide enablement for treating neurodegenerative diseases broadly, the effects of aging, autoimmune conditions, and fibromyalgia.

Applicant believes that *Greenberg* only discloses a study of age-related changes in the ability of brain tissue to respond to reserpine (in the context of treating depression--see page 243), and does not show treatment of a neurodegenerative condition that is an effect of aging, as was recited in Applicant's claims. However, with respect to the rejection under 35 USC §112, Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's arguments concerning the burdens associated with the claims in their previously added form.

Accordingly, in response to the Examiner's arguments, Applicant has by the present amendment limited the claims to the treatment of multiple sclerosis related conditions. As has been noted by the Examiner, the specification is enabling with respect to the amended claims. Moreover, *Greenberg* does not contain any teaching or suggestion regarding the treatment of multiple sclerosis related conditions.

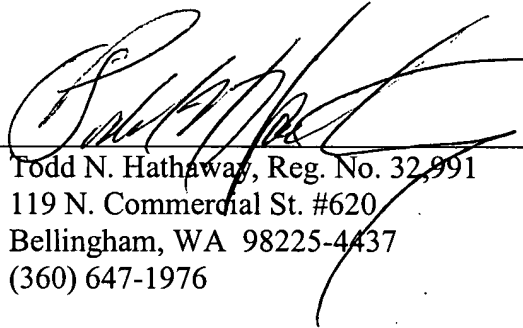
It is therefore believed that the claims are now in condition for allowance. If there is any matter that can be expedited by consultation with Applicant's attorney, such would be welcome. Applicant's attorney can normally be reached at the telephone number given below.

Signed at Bellingham, County of Whatcom, State of Washington this 16th day of November 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

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